

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (withdrawn): An apparatus for jet cutting skin into a mesh pattern, the apparatus comprising: a nozzle; a table spaced apart from the nozzle; and a removable skin carrier positioned on the table; wherein the table and the nozzle are automatically relatively movable according to the mesh pattern.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a skin tensioner coupled the table.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the skin tensioner further includes a first skin roller spaced apart from the removable skin carrier.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the skin tensioner further includes a second skin roller spaced apart from the removable skin carrier and spaced apart from the first skin roller.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): An apparatus for jet cutting skin into a mesh pattern, the apparatus comprising: a means for automatically jet cutting the skin into the mesh pattern; and a means, coupled to the jet cutting means, for tensioning the skin.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the tensioning means includes a removable means for carrying the skin.

Claim 7 (original): A method for jet cutting skin, the method comprising the steps of: automatically jet cutting the skin into a selectable mesh pattern; and automatically tensioning the skin concurrently with the jet cutting step.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the jet cutting step includes making a first cut in the skin, the jet cutting step includes making a second cut in the skin, and the first cut is spaced apart from the second cut by about 0.025 inches.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein the step of jet cutting the skin into the mesh pattern includes jet cutting human skin.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of automatically jet cutting the skin into a predetermined perimeteral shape.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the step of jet cutting the skin into the mesh pattern includes jet cutting human skin.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the step of jet cutting the skin into the mesh pattern includes jetting a biocompatible saline solution.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): An article of manufacture, comprising: jet meshed human skin.

Claim 14 (withdrawn): The article of claim 13, wherein the skin defines a first intricity, the skin defines a second intricity, and the first intricity is spaced apart from the second intricity by about 0.025 inches.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): The article of claim 13, wherein the skin is stretched.

Claim 16 (new): A method for jet cutting skin, the method comprising the steps of:
removing a piece of donor skin from a patient, the donor skin having a first surface area;
jet cutting the donor skin to form a plurality of cuts that cooperate to define a mesh pattern; and
stretching the donor skin to expand the mesh pattern causing the donor skin to have a second surface area, wherein the second surface area is greater than the first surface area.

Claim 17 (new): The method of Claim 16, wherein the distance between each of the plurality of cuts is less than 0.050 inches.

Claim 18 (new): The method of Claim 16, wherein the distance between each of the plurality of cuts is substantially equal to 0.025 inches.

Claim 19 (new): The method of Claim 16, wherein the step of jet cutting the donor skin further comprises jetting a biocompatible saline solution.

Claim 20 (new): The method of Claim 16, further comprising, after the removing step, the steps of securing the donor skin to an X-Y table and actuating the X-Y table to position the donor skin.

Claim 21 (new): The method of Claim 20, wherein the step of securing the donor skin further comprises tensioning the donor skin.